



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/573,826

01/16/2007

Michael Kruschke

32860-001021/US

9915

30596 7590 09/14/2010  
HARNESSE, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O.BOX 8910  
RESTON, VA 20195

EXAMINER

BARRERA, RAMON M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2832

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/14/2010

ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

demailroom@hdp.com  
siemensgroup@hdp.com  
pshaddin@hdp.com

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/573,826	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KRUSCHKE, MICHAEL	
	<b>Examiner</b> RAMON M. BARRERA	<b>Art Unit</b> 2832	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 March 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/29/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Westinghouse(EP0543496), cited on applicant's IDS.

Westinghouse in figs. 1 and 33 disclosed a low voltage power circuit breaker comprising a connecting bar arrangement for an electric switch comprising aligned connecting bars (38,306), characterized in that a localized reduction 369 in the cross-sectional area of at least one of the connecting bars is provided for a localized compression of the lines of force in the direction of alignment; wherein end faces 310 of the connecting bars run parallel to the direction of alignment, wherein which the at least one of the connecting bars is provided with at least one cutout 369, which runs essentially parallel to the end faces, for deflecting the current, wherein the at least one cutout extends transversely with respect to the direction of alignment through the entire at least one of the connecting bars; wherein at least one cutout is provided in a first, outer region of the at least one of the connecting bars; wherein a second cutout 369 is provided in a second region, opposite the first region, of the at least one of the connecting bars; wherein that the at least one cutout extends close to the end face; wherein that

Art Unit: 2832

the at least one cutout extends in the direction of alignment essentially over a quarter of the at least one of the connecting bars.

3. Claims 1-5 and 7-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated Siemens(DE10144440C1), cited on applicant's IDS.

Siemens disclosed a low voltage power circuit breaker comprising a connecting bar arrangement for an electric switch comprising aligned connecting bars (3,23), characterized in that a localized reduction 24 in the cross-sectional area of at least one of the connecting bars is provided for a localized compression of the lines of force in the direction of alignment; wherein end faces of the connecting bars run parallel to the direction of alignment, wherein which the at least one of the connecting bars is provided with at least one cutout 24, which runs essentially parallel to the end faces, for deflecting the current, wherein the at least one cutout extends transversely with respect to the direction of alignment through the entire at least one of the connecting bars; wherein at least one cutout is provided in a first, outer region of the at least one of the connecting bars; wherein a second cutout is provided in a second region, opposite the first region, of the at least one of the connecting bars (fig. 2 and 3); wherein that the at least one cutout extends close to the end face.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAMON M. BARRERA whose telephone number is (571)272-1987. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 11 to 5PM.

Art Unit: 2832

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin G. Enad can be reached on (571) 272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ramon M Barrera/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2832

rmb